

Tale Feathers

August 2004

Volume 71
Number 5

President's Report

Dave Tylka

Congratulations to all the chapter volunteers who have shared their time and talents during the last year including the officers, Board members, committee members, field trip leaders and all the countless others who help address newsletters, present nature programs, represent wildlife concerns at public meetings, coordinate programs, conduct seed sales and develop budgets. Just glance over the annual calendar insert in this newsletter to see how many activities we have already lined up for the upcoming year. We invite you to join us at any of these outings and participate in any meetings.

This fall is going to be an exciting time for St. Louis Audubon Society. The nominating committee put together an excellent slate of Board and officer candidates for the annual membership meeting. (Our members unanimously elected these candidates.) We have recently completed a chapter strategic plan for 2004-06. One of the more ambitious objectives outlined in our plan is to establish, fund and operate a chapter nature center.

Attempting to clarify our niche, the Board has focused upon wetlands as the main theme of the nature center. We are presently exploring the feasibility of locating this center near Little Creve Coeur Marsh in Maryland Heights. If this location is deemed favorable and if we can assemble a partnership of planners, educators, and conservationists, we could begin an exciting new chapter for our chapter. Stay tuned!



Cattails
(4 to 8 ft. high)

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NEWSLETTER-MAILING PARTY

Please join us for the newsletter mailing party on **August 27, 2004**. We would love to see you there. Its always a good time to get together and swap birding stories and even to just catch up with old friends. If you can join us, please call Mary Dueren at 314-576-1473 for more information.



OPERATION CLEAN STREAM

Once again this year, the St. Louis Audubon Society is participating in Operation Clean Stream. The date is **August 28, 2004**. We will meet at Route 66 State Park. For further information, please contact Jerry Castillon at 636-391-7586

WANTED-A FEW GOOD PEOPLE

The Education Committee is looking for new people to add to our group. We do presentations at schools, garden clubs, senior groups, scouts, etc. We do both daytime, evening and an occasional weekend. The topics are various-we do birds, butterflies, plants, mammals, bats, owls, trees and a few more. You do not have to be an experienced birder, or have knowledge of the other topics. You do an on the job training with experienced members of the group and are not required to present any topic until you feel you are ready. Some of our members are retired and some are still employed, so your participation is geared on your availability once you are ready to start working. Sometimes we are very busy with one or two presentations a week and other times we only have two or three a month. Our committee meets once a month-usually on a Friday and at a member's home in Glendale. The meeting starts at 9:30am and goes to about 11:00am, when we conclude with lunch together before we disperse about 12:00.

It sounds like a lot of work, but it is very rewarding to hear the comments of the children and adults after the completion of the presentation. We also learn something each time we do a presentation as each person does it a little differently and adds a little something of their knowledge.

Anyone wanting to attend one of our meetings should call me at 636-391-8751. Our next meeting will be held on Friday, August 13.

Sharon Nickl
V.P. of Education

What did you do on your summer vacation?



If you have any interesting bird tales to tell, we would like to hear them! Please send any fantastic, wonderful or even just ordinary birding stories to us at *Talefeathers*. We would like to see pictures, too!

BIOBLITZ IN FOREST PARK... A FIRST-TIME- EVER 24-HOUR INVENTORY OF ALL LIVING ORGANISMS

WHAT: The BioBlitz is a 24-hour exploration and inventory of living organisms throughout our newly renovated city treasure, Forest Park.
Teams of scientists, naturalists and volunteers will survey the current species of plants and animals represented in Forest Park. Activities to learn about biodiversity are planned. Families are encouraged to attend!

WHEN: **SAVE THE DATE!**
September 10 & 11, 2004
3:00 PM on the 10th until 3:00 PM on the 11th

WHERE: Forest Park
Welcome tent by the newly renovated Visitor Center

COST: No charge for participation.

Sponsors include: The Explorers Club, Gateway Wildlands, Missouri Botanical Garden, Saint Louis Zoo, Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis Science Center. Corporate partners include: Kiku Obata & Company

INFO: www.STLBioBlitz.com

Have you ever wondered what living things are prospering in the Park? Together, we will discover the answers, as search teams organize to scour the 1,371 acres of Forest Park. The purpose of the BioBlitz is to create a species list for animal and plant groups represented in the Park. In doing so, we will have a baseline survey that can be revisited in the future to assess our effectiveness as nature's host. This event will further public awareness about biodiversity in an urban environment.

Considered our City's Crown Jewel, the Park officially opened to the public on June 24, 1876. It is one of the largest urban parks in the US; 500 acres larger than New York City's Central Park. The Park is a natural oasis for our City, with its integrated ecosystem where humans and nature interact. Recently restored with an impressive \$100 million investment, Forest Park is alive and well. Join us as we find out what creatures are crawling and what flora is flourishing.

Volunteers are needed to assist scientists and naturalists as they find and record the current species of plants and animals represented in Forest Park. Volunteers will also assist with public activities to learn about biodiversity in our Park. Are you interested in sharing your enthusiasm for the outdoors? Would you like to learn more about biodiversity and the species that dwell in Forest Park? The BioBlitz Committee wants you! No scientific background is needed, as we will provide you with all the information for the event. A brief orientation program will be held on Saturday, September 4, 2004. To serve as a volunteer, **CONTACT:** Jane Klammer, Jane.klammer@STLBioBlitz.com Experienced birders who would like to join the bird survey team should contact Valerie Vartanian at valerie.vartanian@mobot.org.

SLAS Birding Trips for August and September

John Solodar

Arranging the birding trip schedule for this coming season proved to be especially challenging. There were requests for out of town trips to at least 3 different locations, requests for trips to additional sites close to St. Louis, concerns over reducing our conflicts with ASM meetings and thoughts about optimizing shorebird opportunities during August. In the end, a decision was made to concentrate the spring 2005 trips around the St. Louis area. As the calendar insert shows, we have scheduled eight consecutive Saturday trips close to home, all at different locations, from April 16 through June 4.

One innovation that we are trying this year is not to pre-determine the location of our August trip. Instead, the leader for the August 28 trip, Josh Uffman, will keep his ear to the ground and decide where the best opportunities lie. Hopefully some good shorebirds will be around and we can go in that direction. There is also the possibility of Upland Sandpipers at one of the refuges along Hwy 79 and we might head there. His decision will be available after 6:00 PM on Thursday, Aug 26 on MOBirds or by phone.

Although we have no out of town trips planned for next spring, anyone who wants to can plan something. Good possibilities include a Prairie Chicken trip to western Missouri (April 9 would be a good date for that) or a trip to southern Illinois' Cache River Basin. Contact John Solodar if you want help with leads for putting a trip together.

Birding Trips

August 28, Saturday - Leader's Choice. The trip leader, Josh Uffman, will decide where we are going that day. Expect an 8:00 AM start. **Check MOBirds after 6:00 PM Thursday Aug 26 or call Josh at 314-524-7637.** We hope for a good shorebird opportunity, but if that does not work out Josh will find some other good birds for us. Paul Bauer will be the assistant leader.

September 4, Saturday - Tower Grove Park. Join Nick Barber and John Solodar at 8:00 AM for a walk with fall migrants in mind.

September 11, Saturday - Busch Conservation Area/Weldon Springs - We will meet at Hampton Lake parking lot in Busch at 8:00 AM and join Mike Grant and Dave Rogles in looking for more fall migrants.

September 25, Saturday - Carlyle Lake Pelagic. Once again we head to Carlyle Lake for this all day, three-part trip. We will meet at 7:30 AM in the McDonald's parking lot in the town of Carlyle, IL. Land birds and some waterfowl will be in order in the morning. We will be on the lake for Sabine's and other Gulls and possibly some Phalaropes at mid-day. (Reservations are required for the boat trip which will cost approximately \$25.00 per person.) We will finish at parking lot # 3 and search for shorebirds. Sometimes the group has met for dinner at the end. Josh Uffman and Torrey Berger are the trip leaders. Joe Eades is coordinating reservations for the boat trip. Contact him by e-mail at joseph.w.eades@mon-santo.com.

Upcoming WGNSS walks on Sundays.

August 8 - Horseshoe Lake led by Keith McMullen. Meet at 8:00 a.m. in first parking lot to right of Rt. 111 side entrance to Horseshoe Lake.

September 5 - Tower Grove Park. Meet Sherry McCowan at the Gaddy Bird Garden at 7:30 a.m.

September 26 - Hawk Watch at Mark Peter's prairie at 9:00 AM. See WGNSS website for directions.

Upcoming Audubon Missouri Events in the St. Louis Area

Mark your calendar for these Audubon Missouri events coming in September in association with the arrival of the riverboat Lilly Belle:

September 15 & 16 / Fun and Discovery on the Mississippi River and the Lilly Belle

Time: 9:30a-1:30p

Location: Columbia Bottom Conservation Area

Highlights: St. Louis Area 5th and 6th graders will participate in hands-on activities in a fun outdoor environment at Columbia Bottom to learn about watersheds, river habitat, birds and other wildlife, foreshadowing the Ark Project in St. Louis. Bonnie Koop, Director of Education for Audubon's Upper Mississippi River Campaign is coordinating the activities. Her email is bkoop@audubon.org. Volunteers are welcome and needed. Contact Ken Buchholz locally at kbuchholz@audubon.org.

September 18 / Audubon Missouri Annual Meeting in St. Louis

Time: 11:30a-1:30p

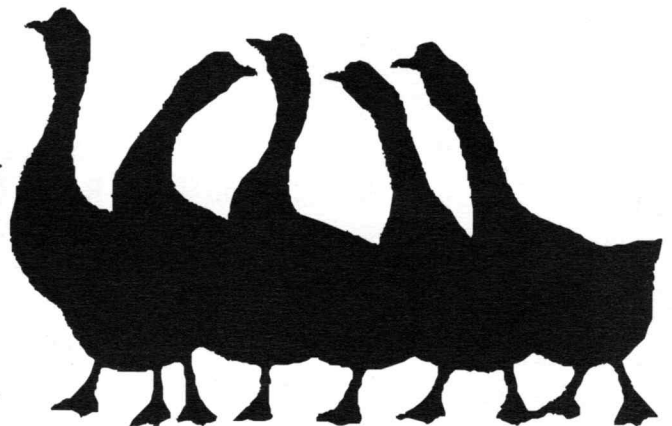
Location: To be determined

Highlights: U.S. Congressman William Lacy Clay will be the guest of honor. Local youth will sing the Mississippi River song with Dan McGuinness, Director of Audubon's Upper Mississippi River Campaign. More details about the annual meeting will be mailed to Audubon members later this summer.

Program Committee Thank You

Just this past May we completed the third year of Audubon programs since the renewal of the monthly format. One measure of success is attendance and with over 1,000 attendees in those few years, I think that says a lot! Of course, the credit must go to our speakers that again brought us many wonderful topics, including prairie chickens in Missouri, endangered parrots in Brazil and red-tail hawks in Central Park-to name just a few.

"Speaking" of speakers, a hearty THANK YOU to all our speakers last year, including Dr. John Blake from UMSL, Sharron Gough and Larry Mechlin from MDC, Susan Flader from UMColumbia, Sara Parker from MDC and John and Pep Tomasovic from the World Bird Sanctuary. All our speakers gave of their own time and energy to educate and entertain us all. Finally, thank YOU to all our members for coming out and taking an interest in your St. Louis Audubon Society.



Welcome new members!!!

Laurie M. Adams
Mrs. David D. Adolphsen
Madeline Claire Albert
Kate Anderson
Howard & Anna Anthes
Susanne Applegate
Renee R. Aubry
Ruth Ayers
Rao Ayyagari
Newell A. Baker
Richard Ballard
Mary A. Beasley
Mike Beaverson
Mary Lee Beuerle
Susan Beyers
Barbara Ann Blanke
Victor Blecha
Bernice Bock
John Bolger
Bruce Bollinger
Peg Callahan
Josie Cambron
Janet Crisp
Margaret Cunningham
Sohpie Cunningham
Kenneth W. Daniels
Rosaleen J. Devlin
Dominick Dimariano
Juanita Donatti
Ronald M. Dotzel
Ms. Huguette Duff
Jan L. Eckhoff
James Eppy
Donald W. Ernst
H. Esserman
Kevin Farrell
Marge Y. Faulstich
Emily Feinberg
D. E. Flynn

Sonja Foster
Lawrence D. Friedman
Lois Fueller
Marilyn Gannon
Morris L. Gardner
Robert M. Glazier
Susan L. Huber
Jill I. Hunter
Thomas Jamboretz
Carole Kelley
Robert Kelley
Sharon A. Kelts
Diane Killion
Stevee King
Yvonne Y. Kirkpatrick
John Kraemer
Lester M. Kraft
Lori Larose
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Judith Leifeld
Richard Lesage
Martha Levengood
Mary A. Liggett
Karen Lindquist
Thomas Linke
Janet Long
J. Louzader
J. Maloney
Patrick W. Maloney
Frederick Marshall
M. A. Martin
Chris Matsuno
Lee M. McCann
Betty McGuinness
Tim McGinnis
Vernon McIntire
Ms. N. Merrell
W. Meyer
Jacqueline Miller
Jess Mills
Thomas Morgan
A.L. Neilen
J. E. Nichols
Jane North
Janina Nussbaum
Evangeline E. O'Leary

Patricia Oakes
Vernon Olson
Mary Ott
Nathan Pate
Arthur H. Pedersen
Bill Pollock
Bobby Pyrtle
Robin L. Rambaud
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Mr. Michael M. Renner
Pat Riebold
Vicky Roberson
Shirley Ruesche
Leonard Ruzicka
Carolyn M Samuels
Dave Scheu
Jeane Schiller
Leroy D. Schmieder
Crishayne D. Selene
Richard H. Smith
Ropnda Sterling
Maine Stone
Judith J. Taylor
Connie Thoene
Karen Thorson
Mary Underwood
Vallerie Volk
Bernard L. Waggoner
Robert L. Walker
Nancy Weisenfels
Kenneth Whiteside
Wilkinson
Robert Williford
David & Karla Wilson
Peggy E. Winkler
Cyndi Wise
K. Woolbright
Peggy L. Zimmerman
Florence Emke
The Hammonds
Sherman Kneemiller

Dorothy Laux
Trish & Josh McCabe
Sandra J. Steinman
Debey & Evan Strobel
Eleanor Ball
Dorothy K. Bates
Barbara Berkmeier
Loretta Cannon
Mary Ellen Chapman
Danielle Clark
David & Karen Dapron
Lin Dempsey
Virginia L. Deutch
David & Marie Doering
Ray & Dineen Ebert
Ed Mass
Bob & Daray Elspermae
Thomas Ernst
Harry Felknor
William & Joanne Fogarty
James & Tricia Ford
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Jeanne Giebe
Melinda Hall
John P. Hambene
Paul F. Haner
Lucinda Herron
John Hickie
Abigail F. Lambert
Sherie Libby
Richard H. Magee
Jill Meyers
Ann Mihanovich
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A. L. Neilen
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Patricia O'Neal
Ellen Petty
Peter J. Raymond
Eva Ridgway
George Salava

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Leroy & Jan Skoch
Angie-Pauline Stokes
Donna Tyler
Thelma Wright
Kevin Demartino
Thomas Marshall
Elizabeth Pawol
Jane Rand
Dorothy J. Wagstaff
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Nancy Ames
Ronald A. Charles
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Muentner
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Walker Frantz-Greene
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Lynn Hepler
Barbara Hutton
Steve Johnson
Edward Jones
Buck & Connie Krieger
Deborah Miller
Elizabeth Pandolfi
Rob Schwabe
Robert Shanahan
Herman & Chalene Shyken
Barbara J. Simonson
Thomas White
Liza Wolf

Even More New Members!!!!

Rita Wurm
Leslie Zillmer
Larry Clark
Margery Doss
Jeffrey Kushner
Nora Timoney
Linda R. Ward
Paula Mrozewski
Jennifer Agnew
Helen Alonzo
David R. Anderson
Frank Anzalone
Dennis
Arnold
June Bailey
Loy Barber
Barbara
Basile
Gary U.
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Noel
Berryman
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Craig L.
Brooks
Patricia Brown
Carol A. Buritsch
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Larry Checkett
Edith Christy
Barara A. Cockrell
Janice Conley
C. J. Cook
Lorrie Crossett
Janet M. Desloge
Jennnifer
Haberberger
Kathryn Hanick
Olive Hartman
Marjorie Harwood
Gary Hayes
Harold Heitmann
Gene Hoefel

Phyllis Hoffmann
Nancy Hollyfield
Dorothy Hoyer
David W. Jones
James M. Kartmann
Sallie W. Kratz
Kristi Krey
Chung Lee
Karen Lucas
Vishwanath
Madinur
Dominic Marfisi
Ida Martz
Helen Martin
Shirley A.
McKenna
Paul Mennemeier



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Alice Morgan
M. B. Morris
Peggy Muldoon
Linda Munsell
Maxine Niehoff
Guy E. Nowels
Fred Penneweli
Mary Pitti
Betty J. Preuss
Mike Rafferty
NickRatica
James Ritz
Petty Ross
Jeanne Rowe
Rita & Bill
Rundquist
Earl Samel
R. Saunders
Mary Schenks

Henry Schlapp
Roy Schroeder
Stan Schwing
Sandra B Sermos
Richard H. Smith
Joanna Soles
Janet I. Stanford
John Strebler
Gregory M. Studt
Peter Talluto
Cliford Tendick
Margaret Tyler
Marion C. Ulrick
Rebecca
Wagenblast
Barbara Wallace
Billy Walley
Charlie
Wiegert
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L. Zeidler
Peter G.
Zentay
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Williams
Roberta
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George G. Garcia
Orda Gibbs
L.H. Goldman
Jacqueline
Grabinski

Tale Feathers

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St. Louis Audubon Society 2004 - 2005

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Mike Thelen	314-862-6642
Josh Iffman	
Jim Wilson	

Attention!

The deadline for the September issue is **August 10**. Send inquiries to Anne by

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Join the St. Louis Audubon Society and the National Audubon Society

As a joint member with National Audubon, you will receive National Audubon's quarterly magazine (Audubon) as well as St. Louis Audubon Society's Newsletter (Tale Feathers). Now you also have the opportunity to join only the St. Louis Audubon Society, receive Tale Feathers, and participate in the educational and conservation activities of St. Louis Audubon. There is no distinction between individual and family membership. Dues cover all members at the same address. For information, call (314) 822-6595.

St. Louis Audubon Society / National Audubon Society -- Membership Application

Use this form to join St. Louis Audubon / National Audubon

For joint membership in St. Louis Audubon Society and National Audubon Society, Make checks payable to **National Audubon Society** and mail to St. Louis Audubon Society, P. O. Box 220227, Kirkwood, MO 63122.

_____ Membership / \$35 For renewal in the National Audubon Society we recommend that you use the forms supplied by National Audubon. For more information contact Anne Rankin Horton at 636-256-3402

_____ Introductory Membership / \$20 _____ Special Two-Year Introductory Membership / \$30

_____ Senior Citizen (62 and older) / \$15 (New and renewal) _____ Student / \$15 (New and renewal)

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_____ Local Chapter Membership only (St. Louis Audubon Society), Introductory and renewal. / \$15

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